

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03885 111621Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7805

CONFIDENTIAL OTTAWA 3885

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS(1)

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER TO OTTAWA OCTOBER 14 AND 15

FOR EUR: VINE AND ROUSE

1. WITH RETURN OF MACEACHEN FROM POLAND OCTOBER 10 COMPLICATIONS HAVE ARISEN IN CONNECTION WITH SECRETARY'S SCHEDULED BREAKFAST WITH OPPOSITION LEADERS OCTOBER 15TH. BREAKFAST WAS SCHEDULED ON BASIS OF PRECEDENTS (E.G. NIXON-STANFIELD IN OTTAWA IN 1972 AND TRUDEAU AND DEMOCRATIC SENATORS IN WASHINGTON IN 1969) AND SUGGESTION WAS DISCUSSED AS EARLY AS TWO WEEKS AGO WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIALS WHO HAVE BEEN KEPT FULLY INFORMED OF OUR PLANS. HOWEVER MACEACHEN HAS NOW FOCUSED ON MATTER AND FEELS IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR SECRETARY AS GUEST GOC TO EXCLUDE LIBERAL PARTY FROM EVENT WHICH STARTS HIS OFFICIAL DAY, EVEN THOUGH HE RECOGNIZES THAT OPPOSITION MEMBERS INVITED REPRESENT DIFFERENT AND MUTUALLY ANTAGONISTIC PARTIES. MACEACHEN THEREFORE REQUESTS THAT LIBERALS FROM HOUSE OF COMMONS STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE BE ADDED TO BREAKFAST INVITATION LIST.

2. ROBINSON, EXTAF UNDERSECRETARY DISCUSSED MATTER WITH ME IN SOMEWHAT

EMBARRASSED FASHION BEING WELL AWARE OF PRECEDENTS AS WELL AS NOTICE WE HAD GIVEN THEM. HE ASKED IF WE COULD ADJUST INVITATION LIST TO INCLUDE

LIBS IN SAME PROPORTION AS THOSE ON COMMITTEE-- WHICH WOULD MEAN A
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 03885 111621Z

MAJORITY. I SAID WE HAD NO DESIRE TO CAUSE EMBARRASSMENT AND WHILE I

FELT SECRETARY WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO INCLUSION OF LIBS
IF GOC WANTED THAT, I COULD NOT AGREE OFF-HAND TO INCLUDE THEM IN
SAME
PROPORTION AS THEIR REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEE. I SAID ALSO THAT
IT WOULD NOT BE PRACTICAL TO SEAT LIBS ABOVE OPPOSITION LEADERS
WHICH ROBINSON REPLIED HE WOULD NOT ARGUE PROTOCOL SINCE HE RECOGNIZED

THAT SECRETARY IS HOST AND SEATING IS OUR PREROGATIVE.

3. IN LIGHT OF THIS DEVELOPMENT I INTEND, UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO
CONTRARY, TO ADD UP TO FIVE RESPONSIBLE LIBS TO BREAKFAST LIST.
BREAKFAST HAS NOT BEEN BILLED PUBLICLY AS OPPOSITION-ONLY AFFAIR
AND THIS CHANGE CAN BE EFFECTED WITHOUT ATTRACTING ADVERSE ATTEN-
TION.

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Message Attributes

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